

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/076,329

Examiner

Brian Jelinek

Applicant(s)

SATO, KENICHI

Art Unit

2615

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/25/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance             |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

***Response to Amendment***

The Examiner respectfully submits a response to the amendment received on 4/25/2005 of application no. 10/076,329 filed on 2/19/2002 in which claims 1-11 are currently pending. **This application is allowed.**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bruce Arnold on 7/5/2005.

The application has been amended as follows: please replace "negative" with "positive" in line 5 of claim 1. The claim should read as follows:

1. An electronic camera that includes an optical system for forming an image of an object, and an electronic image pick-up device for capturing image information by arranging multiple detecting elements on an image pick-up surface wherein: the optical system includes, in order from the object side, a first lens element of **positive** meniscus shape, a second lens element of negative meniscus shape, a third lens element of positive meniscus shape, a fourth lens element of negative meniscus shape, and a fifth lens element having a planar surface on the object side; and said image pick-up surface is non-planar and corresponds in shape to the curvature of field of said optical system.

The application has been amended as follows: please replace "negative" with "positive" in paragraph 37, line 3 of the specification. The paragraph should read as follows:

[0037] As shown in FIG. 3, the electronic camera relating to the present embodiment is provided with a first lens element L1 of positive [negative] meniscus shape with its convex surface on the object side, a second lens element L2 of negative meniscus shape with its convex surface on the image side, a third lens element L3 of positive meniscus shape with its convex surface on the image side, a fourth lens element L4 of negative meniscus shape with its convex surface on the object side, and a fifth lens element L5 having a planar surface on the object side and a convex surface on the image side. Both surfaces of each of the second lens element L2 and the fourth lens element L4 are aspherical.


### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Jelinek whose telephone number is (571) 272-7366. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached at (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 2615

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Brian Jelinek  
7/5/2005



DAVID L. OMETZ  
PRIMARY EXAMINER